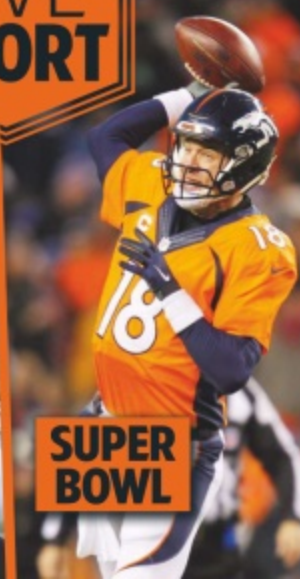


6-12 February
2016

TV & Satellite week

**NEW****HAPPY VALLEY**The hard-hitting
drama returns**PLUS****MATT DAMON****The Martian**
blasts off**SPIN**More intrigue
in the political
thriller**THE TRUTH IS IN HERE**

THE X-FILES

**Why David Duchovny
and Gillian Anderson
can't wait to reunite****STARTS MONDAY**
CHANNEL 5 HD**GREAT
LIVE
SPORT****SIX
NATIONS****SUPER
BOWL**

THE X Factor

Why **David Duchovny** and **Gillian Anderson** are delighted to reunite as Mulder and Scully

Your ultimate
X Files
guide

X The original series ran for 202 episodes, from 1993 to 2002, with David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson both winning Golden Globes for their roles.

At the Golden
Globes in 1998



X The show's haunting theme tune reached number two in the UK charts in 1996. A pop song tribute to the series, *Mulder and Scully*, by Catatonia reached number three in 1998.



X The show became famous for its 'monster of the week' episodes, scaring us silly with everything from giant slugs and cloned, homicidal children to the squeaky-wheeled beggar man and inbred mutants, the Peacock family.



The Peacocks

X Writers on the original series included Vince Gilligan and Frank Spotnitz who went on to write *Breaking Bad* and *The Man in the High Castle* respectively.

NEW SCI-FI

The X Files

Monday, Channel 5 HD, 9pm

With its compelling lead characters, intriguing catchphrase – ‘the truth is out there’ – and unexplained cases of paranormal and alien activity, *The X Files* was a massive hit when it debuted on our TV screens in 1993.

The show remained a fan favourite for nine years, spawning two movies and making international stars of Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny, who played sceptical FBI agent Dana Scully and her more credulous partner Fox Mulder.

We last met Mulder and Scully in the second spin-off movie, 2008’s *The X Files: I Want to Believe*, which saw the former lovers reunite to investigate the kidnapping of an FBI agent. Although the film was panned by critics, Duchovny never stopped believing that one day the show would return.

This week, he gets his wish as *The X Files* comes to Channel 5 with a six episode mini-series which revisits the show’s central premise of shadowy conspiracies that reach into the highest echelons of government and corporations, and sees the return of some iconic characters [see panel right].

As the action begins, Mulder is in the grip of depression, while Scully continues to work as a doctor at a Catholic hospital. But when a conspiracy theorist, TV host Tad O’Malley (Joel McHale), asks for their help to investigate a possible alien abduction, they find it impossible to say no.

‘We’ve had a much better time working on the new series than we ever had before and who knows how things will evolve from here,’ says Duchovny. ‘If the public responds, I could easily see myself doing another season after this. I always thought it was unfinished business and I hope we’ll be able to continue doing it.’

We caught up with Duchovny to find out more about the series...



David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson and Joel McHale

How does it feel to return to *The X Files*? It was kind of emotional and daunting at first. I always believed that we would at some point make a third film, but the TV landscape changed. Now the networks are struggling to survive and they’ve discovered that limited series of six or eight episodes can attract major audiences, as compared to doing 20 or 24 episodes, and that made it much easier for Gillian and me to say yes.

What can you tell us about the mini series? Mulder is not very happy, not that Mulder was ever very happy. He’s unemployed, he’s living alone, he’s unshaven, he’s been diagnosed as depressed, and he’s not in a good place. It takes going back to the *X Files* to reignite his passion for living.

What can fans look forward to in the new episodes of the series? Viewers are going to see a smart reinvention of our mythology stories. [Series creator] Chris Carter has also come up with some great stand-alone, scary, ‘monster of the week’ type episodes.

What was it like working with Gillian Anderson again? It’s been a wonderful time for us. That was one of the most pleasant and satisfying aspects of going back to

the series. Gillian and I have both evolved personally and professionally over the years and we’ve become good friends over time. I would still call her or write to her after she moved to the UK and we have a much greater appreciation for the show and our work together now than ever before. It’s been very easy between us and we’ve never laughed so much as we have this time around.

Why was there apparent friction between you both during the original series? During the final few seasons, we were both tired and edgy and anxious to move on. I know that I was tired of the grind and how much time doing a series like that takes out of your life. But when we got back on the set this time, everybody had a good feeling about being back. It had the feeling of a college reunion.

Did you pull any of your famous pranks on Gillian? One day we were doing a scene where she was driving and she accidentally backed up our car into a pole. It was a pretty good bump. So the next day I borrowed a neck brace from the first aid guy on the set and I sat on a chair waiting for Gillian to show up. When she saw me she had this horrified look on her face. I wish I’d had a camera filming her.

LOOK WHO’S BACK

It’s not only Mulder and Scully who return in the new series. Mitch Pileggi (right) is back as the duo’s FBI boss Walter Skinner, Annabeth Gish (below left) reprises the role of Agent Monica Reyes,



and William B. Davis (below) is Mulder’s arch-nemesis Cigarette Smoking Man, which might come as a surprise to some fans after he appeared to be killed by a helicopter rocket in the 2002 series finale.

‘I’m definitely in some of the episodes,’ reveals Davis. ‘And I’m definitely in the first episode, though it’s top secret as to exactly what I’m doing.’



Do you think younger audiences will be curious to discover *The X Files*? I hope we’re going to attract a lot of new fans because even if they didn’t see the original series, the same elements are present, while past fans are going to find the new episodes just as compelling as ever.

Why did a third *X Files* film never happen? Chris Carter was very limited by a \$25 or \$30million budget and he was forced to put *The X Files: I Want to Believe* up against *Batman* and other summer blockbusters.

What’s the likelihood of another run of episodes beyond the current six? I’m very open to it. First we need to see how people respond to these and then we can take another look at it. But for me *The X Files* door is always open.

● Catch the behind the scenes documentary *The X Files: Reopened* at 8.30pm, prior to the new drama.



War & Peace

X Guest stars included Bryan Cranston, Mimi Rogers and Jane Lynch, and before they were famous, Jack Black, Aaron Paul and Shia LaBeouf.

The Flukeman

X Series creator Chris Carter’s favourite episodes include season two’s *The Host*, which features the sewer-dwelling Flukeman, and season five’s *Bad Blood*, in which Mulder and Scully investigate a vampire case told in flashback.



Annabeth Gish and Robert Patrick

X Duchovny cut down his appearances dramatically in seasons eight and nine, and was replaced by Robert Patrick who played Agent John Doggett.

X The series spawned two movies, *The X Files*, in 1998 which grossed \$189million worldwide, and 2008’s *The X Files: I Want to Believe*, which bombed at the box office.



Californication

X Since the end of the series, Duchovny has starred in *Californication* and *Aquarius*, while Anderson has impressed in *Hannibal*, plus several BBC dramas including *The Fall* and *War & Peace*.